

CREATING AND ANALYZING AN IDENTIFIER INDICATING WHETHER DATA IS IN AN EXPECTED FORM

Abstract of the Disclosure

Communicating a data element in a way that does not identify the format of the element comprises creating an identifier specifying the format of the data element, inserting the identifier as part of the data element, and transmitting the data element and identifier. In addition communicating a data element in a way that does not identify the format of the element may include receiving the data element, extracting a separate identifier that specifies the format of the data element, and processing the data using the identifier.